

WHAT'S LEFT IN BOSTON

A Community Calendar of Progressive Cultural & Political Events

→ MANDELA, MASSACHUSETTS ←

By Andrew Jones

The day was cloudy and I didn't feel like being out collecting signatures. The weather was hot and sticky, the kind of grey overcast that only midsummer can bring. The neighborhood was dirty and the people were particularly unfriendly that day. Neighborhood beer drinkers had given me a hard time earlier, asking me from the across the street what I was doing and then telling me they "Didn't want no Mandela". I fought the urge to throw my white styrofoam signature board down and walk away, and I succeeded. I just kept going.

A block or so away, after being turned away several times, I walked into an apartment building near Egleston and knocked on a first floor door. A man answered the door in a wheel chair, missing a leg. He took a look at me and said: "We don't want any.." He shut the door in my face and though I was insulted, I understood. The building was decrepit. The neighborhood was rough and the man had one leg. I yelled through the door, that I only wanted his signature to help put a referendum question on the ballot so we could have our own city. I turned around and walked away and heard over my shoulder. "How come you didn't say that?" I looked back and there he was sitting in his wheel chair, smiling at me. He told me to come in and apologized for shutting the door in my face. The reasons he gave were those I had figured out already, drugs and crime. There was a really skinny older woman in the house with him and his furnishings were typical of older people living on too little money. He told the woman that this was something she should sign, that it was good for black people and he handed her the board. She signed. Next he took a look at the few signatures already on it, looked up at me and said: "This is a privilege."

He then signed the sheet, which was an official signature form, provided by the Election Division of the Secretary of State's office. He praised me for the good work he said I had done and encouraged me to do more. "Its about time the black man did something for himself." He said. "Keep it up young man and we'll get it." He shook my hand and wheeled himself to the door and we said goodbye. I hadn't even bothered to ask him if he were a registered voter. It didn't matter, because that wasn't the point. The point was that once again I was able to keep going, pushed on through despair and discouragement by one more proud human being.

My great grandfather and his great grandfather and his father were all men of chains, tethered together by a common genetic

plight of unenfranchisement and dreams dead before they were born. I say this because ideas, like Mandela don't come out of nothing, nor do they originate with the perpetrators, no matter how creative they might be.

The name Mandela, honoring Nelson and Winnie Mandela, is the suggested name for the proposed municipality, chosen by members of the Greater Roxbury Incorporation Project. Any permanent name would have to be voted upon and approved by the voter population after incorporation. The new city, a 12.5 square mile area includes Roxbury, Mattapan, parts of Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, The Fenway and The South End. It has a population of approximately 125,000 residents mixed black, white, hispanic and other. The boundaries were chosen by joining Boston city precincts with demographics of 45% or greater people of color. Political reality has it

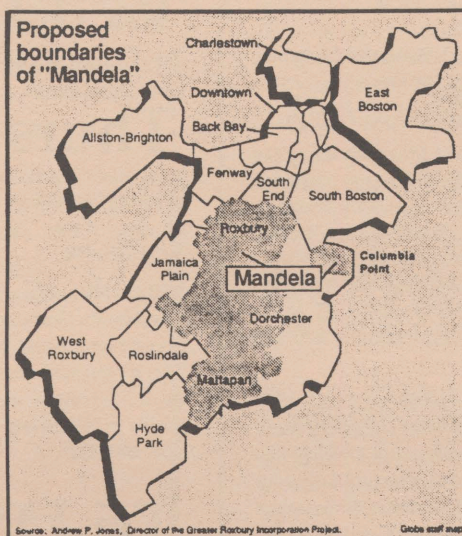
that all of those precincts, except Ward 13, Precinct 3 (Columbia Point), are connected in one part of the city, Greater Roxbury. Boston has a reputation for being a racist city, but few people are aware of just how segregated Boston is. South Boston, East Boston, Charlestown, Beacon Hill and Back Bay have populations that are less than 2% black. West Roxbury, the largest neighborhood in the city, has an official 0% black population. It is incredible to those who cannot imagine it, but the truth is that 99% of Boston's black community lives in Greater Roxbury. West Roxbury used to be a part of Roxbury which formerly was a city independent of Boston.

Roxbury was established in 1630, the

same year as Boston. At the time it's size was over 10,000 acres, compared with Boston's 750 acres.

Muddy River was also a part of Boston, but it "seceded" on November 13, 1713, thereafter calling itself the independent town of Brookline.

Roxbury was incorporated as a town in 1821, the same year Maine separated itself from Massachusetts. It became a city in 1848 and was annexed to Boston, after a bitter struggle, in 1868. West Roxbury 'seceded' from Roxbury in 1853 and became annexed to Boston in 1874. The majority of the 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts were formed as the result of smaller communities breaking off from larger entities. Often these struggles were fought to the point of violence, by illiterate farmers, hungry for what their commonsense and the constitution told them was their God-given right: to govern themselves.



Continued on next page

America is divided into over 35,000 cities and towns and 81,000 subdivisions of federal government all told. Indeed government in America seems of be a particle phenomenon, where the idea of democracy is imbedded in tiny little independent cells: town halls, city halls, city council chambers, local police forces and countless other units of democracy in administration. It is the nature of a people, any people, to want to run their own affairs and once they have a taste of it, no matter how bitter at first, then no amount of colonial sweetness will do. Mandela is just that, the bitter medicine of democratic self-government, administered by people with a taste for freedom themselves.

If a majority of voters were to cast their ballots in favor of forming a new city, then legislation would be filed setting up a transition administration to actually create the municipality. The legislature would have to approve such legislation and pass it on for the governor's signature, at which point it would have to be ratified by voters in the area, after formal boundaries have been negotiated.

Even though the referendum was non-binding in '86, and will be again this fall, it was opposed by major downtown corporate real estate interests such as Bank of Boston, State Street Bank and Filene's.....Filene's!!!!? Those businesses funneled money into the hands of preachers who ignored a ballot question on abortion and chose instead to campaign against what was and is essentially a public opinion poll.

The Mandela referendum lost in 1986 by a margin of 35,273 to 12,110. Another 14,205 voters cast their ballots in the election, but did not address this question. Perhaps it was because they were unsure of themselves; unwilling to support, yet unable to kill it.

The summer of 1987 saw yet another defeat for Mandela proponents. We had to sue the Clerk of the House of Representatives to get the legislature to vote on putting the question on the ballot. Although the measure passed through the Election Committee by a vote of 3 to 2, it failed on the floor of the House of Representatives. During a two and a half hour debate, it was called "evil", by certain state representatives who also declared that "freedom of speech can only go so far." The final vote was 87-66.

In the fall of the 1987, we, the incorporation proponents devised a plan to place the question back on the ballot in 1988. On election day, November 3 1987, volunteers stood at the polls and gathered registered voter signatures in some of the then ten state representative districts to be included in Mandela. After the election, we went door to door collecting signatures until the weather got too cold to continue.

The Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights, represented by Alan J. Rom, had brought suit in federal court challenging the validity of the state's method of drawing senatorial and representative districts. They won. Therefore, the state had to draw new districts. The new districts, plus the argument challenging the constitutionality of the state's statute barring the question from appearing on the ballot in two consecutive elections, were our trump cards. We knew one of them would win.

It did.

David Sullivan, counsel for Massachusetts Secretary of State Michael Joseph Connelly, initially accepted our Supreme Judicial Court challenge. He then, upon rethinking the risk of a bunch of radicals winning a major court struggle and forcing the removal of a 57 year old statute from the books, backed down. He wrote a letter to Alan Rom, our attorney, granting us permission to vote on Mandela this fall, November 1988.

Local government in America is the most powerful form of government in the world. The people own the land, tax it, regulate it and license its use to individuals and corporations so long as those entities guard the public interest.

The public interest is the vitality of the people and the culture.

Every structure, every space, every piece of real estate is carefully regulated by a bureaucracy which can support or destroy. Zoning ordinances control building height, square footage, sewage and water utilities. All building, residential and commercial, must be done with permits and permits cost money: Municipal revenue.

Schools, hospitals, police and fire services all fall under the purview of city and town governments. Elected officials and their appointed administrators establish public policy and implement it under the municipal charters. Break the law, neglect taxes, leave fees and fines unpaid and the result is confiscated real and chattel property.

On the other hand, municipalities license parades, hold parties, dispense scholarships, cable television licenses, free health care, when necessary, shelter for the homeless, and monitor cleanliness in all aspects of the food industry. Restaurants are subject to inspections from food inspectors, who can close even the poshest for the most minor violations. Protests on the part of owners can result in expensive litigation and denial of license renewal. All power to the people.

However, with power comes responsibility. Cities and towns get sued and pay out millions of dollars every year to individuals claiming torts. Insurance costs money and premiums go up after every case of litigation. Tax caps like Proposition 2 1/2 in Massachusetts and Proposition 13 in California limit revenue in such a way that local governments often go heavily into debt providing basic services. They manage to get by and some even eventually improve, but whole generations pay for the adjustment in the form of sliced services and benefits in the schools.

Rich land developers constantly petition state government to weaken the powers of cities and towns to control building development by limiting the scope of Eminent Domain. Large real estate companies often push legislation designed to guarantee benefits to large companies through laws vague enough to stand up in court longer than municipalities can afford to litigate them.

Yet through it all, there is a dream. The dream is of being wild, of knowing collectively where the buck stops and who has the power to spend it. Ask any mayor, selectperson, town clerk or councilman what their preference is and they'll tell you that municipal incorporation is not utopian. It is, they say, as problematic as it is beneficial.

Empowerment is impossible without responsibility.

Decisionmaking and policy implementation are exercises for the determination of the people. The muscle tone needed to fight racism and oppression can only be gained through lifting the weights of daily responsibility for schools, health, hospitals, building, sanitation and law enforcement. Such is the nature of freedom in America.

My dream is of bringing power to my people in an orderly fashion, consistent with the basic tenants of the constitution. The power to be responsible, and occupy the planet a little more gently than those who rule us now. I may not succeed at this, but I know it's worth reaching for, because by heart tells me so. It is the heart of the grandson of a slave, and such a man appreciates freedom for sure. ■

Information:

Mandela needs volunteers.

For information on how you can help,

Call: Andrew P. Jones 267-2036 CoFounder/Director GRIP

Cynthia Silva, 282-3820 (Chairman of FATE)

Curtis Davis 267-2992

GRIP address: The Geater Roxbury Incorporation Project
791 Tremont St. W412 Boston, MA 02118

The question will appear on the ballot in state representative districts 5,6,7,9,12 and 13.

CHAIN OF CHANGE

by Mel King

South End Press, 1981

FROM ACCESS TO POWER

Edited by James Jennings and Mel King

Schenkman, 1985

Chain of Change and *From Access to Power* analyze Black community politics in Boston. Together, they cover the Black community's history from Boston's inception through Mel King's mayoral campaign in 1985. Both books focus on the changing dynamics of community power from the meager access to resources in the 1950's to a growing self-determination in the present.

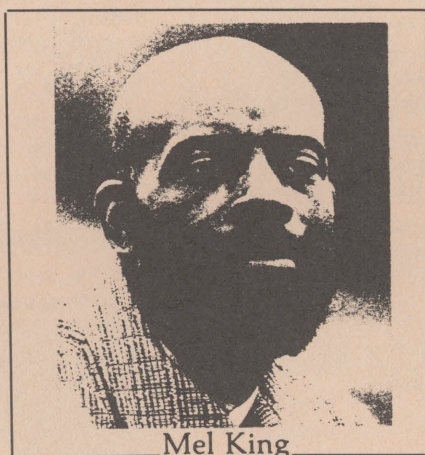
The Black community in Boston had no real control over its resources prior to the sixties. Mel King calls this the "service stage" because resources largely came to the community through various service agencies whose missionary goal was to "civilize" the community. The agencies saw Black attitudes and cultures as the problem that needed changing; the problem wasn't the racism and discrimination that robbed the community of access to its rightful resources. Groups like the Boston Redevelopment Authority condemned vitally active neighborhoods like the West End and the New York Streets section of the South End as slums and razed them in the name of development. The Boston School Committee segregated Black children to rotting schools whose vocational programs were woefully outdated. In the schools, the teachers taught other ethnic groups about their cultural heritage, but tried to anglicize Black children.

Politically in this era, Black voters played a swing role in many elections by voting as a block, but could not elect any representatives due to gerrymandering and at-large city council elections. Cronyism extended into the Black Community. The mayor's office disbursed favors and resources through gatekeepers who were not responsible to the community.

The second stage of Mel King's chain of change is organizing. During this stage, the Black community discarded the internalized negative self image in favor of a more positive outlook. Members gained skills in the course of their struggles. *Chain of Change* describes many of these: the 1963 Wonder Bread boycott for affirmative action hiring within Wonder Bread, the school stay-outs, and the Tent City struggle. Both *Chain of Change* and *From Access to Power* detail the Black community's growing political strength in this era. Black community representatives ran for School Committee in 1959, 1961 and 1963

and for City Council in 1959 and 1963 and lost. Finally, in 1967, Tom Atkins was elected to the City Council. Each succeeding election gave the participants more skills and insight.

The third stage of community development in Boston was institution building. Institutions allow the Black community to build on its successes by accumulating organizational strength from struggle to struggle. Black union workers formed the United Community Construction Workers to train people in the trades on an ongoing basis and to monitor the equal opportunity employment of Boston's unions. Tenant groups sustained themselves between particular housing battles. The Black community formed the Black United Front. Mel King's mayoral campaigns extended past their official defeat as the Rainbow Coalition.



Mel King

The overall tone of both books is positive, but not always pleasant. The Boston city power structure has always been characterized by racism, paternalism and cronyism. The city has always moved Black people around as a way to get cheap land for industrial development and gentrification. The city power structure has always played White off against Black, guaranteeing the election of reactionary goons like Dapper O'Neil who often vote in ways that hurt their constituencies. Other politicians have crassly counted on the Black vote. Kevin White did this in the 1960's when he placed himself to the left of luminaries such as Louise Day Hicks.

At the top of Boston's racist climate are the Brahmins. *From Access to Power* has a great chapter (almost worth the price of the book) on the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald* and the 1983 mayoral election. The newspapers' response to the election typifies liberal response to racism; they deny the problem exists, they point to token events as markers of the end of the problem, they stop short of sharing power with the Black community.

In particular, the *Globe* and *Herald* championed Ray Flynn as reformed and anti-racist. They accused Mel King of foment-

ing racial unrest when he addressed the issue and questioned Ray Flynn's record. *From Access to Power* makes extensive use of the *South Boston Tribune* to document the stand Flynn took during the 1975 busing crisis. The *Globe* stated that, in this period, Flynn was a moderating force, virtually patrolling the schools to prevent racial incidents. The *Tribune* of this era paints a different picture. Flynn refused to sign a statement deploring the violence in the schools. He consistently commented about Black acts of violence directed at Whites and condemned the press for its alleged scanty coverage as compared to acts of White violence.

Through all this, Flynn showed no understanding of the reasons why Black people wanted busing: the horrible pits that passed for schools in the Black community. Perhaps he understood, but recoiled at the thought of South Boston children going to them. In contrast, Mel King spoke out against both Black and White violence. He demonstrated intimate and heartfelt knowledge of the effects and mechanisms of racism. The *Boston Globe* covered up this difference, declaring King and Flynn equally liberal. The *Globe* declared that Flynn should be mayor because of the alleged equality. The underlying premise of this is the exact opposite of Affirmative Action: when faced with a choice between Black and White, choose White.

In politics, the elections always offer the safety of a deadline. The *Globe* and *Herald* maintained their conspiracy of silence through the election despite constant questioning of their editorial policy and thorough research by the Black community on Flynn's real record. The Boston Brahmins were able to exclude the Black community from power and were able to protect the working class white community's meager privileges, not by upgrading city services, but by maintaining segregation of these city services. In this way, working class whites are not subjected to the genuinely horrific conditions of services in the Black community.

The Brahmins (and now their mayor Flynn) maintain a delicate balance between Black protest and white privilege in order to guarantee an acceptable level of tranquility at the lowest possible cost. Both *From Access To Power* and *Chain of Change* unmask this racist premise and point toward the direction of change: self determination for Boston's black community.

Available at: Red Book, 92 Green St, Jamaica Plain. Hours: Tu-Fri 12:00-7:00, Sat, Sun 12:00-5:00. Telephone #: 522-1464

Sat 1 through Oct 21 Exhibition of Cuban painter and printmaker Francisco Mendez-Diez's work at Mass College of Art's 11th floor gallery.

Rosie Jimenez Day: information tables throughout the city and greater Boston area. For more information and volunteering, call 782-1056.

8:30 am - 4:00 pm **Designing and Leading a Group About Disability** by women for women. A day long training on creating a group about disability issues. Sliding fee: \$20-\$50. At the Boston Women's Health Center, 47 Nichols Ave, Watertown. Information: 727-7440 (voice & TTY). ASL on request. ♿

9:00 am-5:00 pm **Teach-in on El Salvador** featuring *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent Chris Norton, FMLN-FDR representative Mercedes Salgado, and others. Workshops on all phases of the Salvadoran popular movement and on local solidarity projects. Film, music, crafts, food and a way to plug in! At MIT. Call Mike Prokosch at NECAN 491-4205 for more information.

Every Saturday at 10:30 am **Living With AIDS Theatre Project:** a workshop to collect the experiences and stories of those connected with the AIDS crisis. At Club Cabaret, 209 Columbus Ave, Boston.

1:00 pm-4:00 pm **11th Anniversary Chinese Independence Day Celebration** at the Chinese Progressive Association Worker's Center, 27 Beach St, 3rd floor, Boston. Free. Information: 357-4499

7:00 pm **Salvadoran Dinner fundraiser** featuring Mercedes Salgado, FMLN-FDR representative. Also featuring live Latin music, Haitian poetry by Jean-Claude Martineau. At the Firehouse Multicultural Arts Center, Jamaica Plain. Tickets \$5, Call to reserve child care. Information: CASA at 492-8699

7:30-11:00 pm **Dignity/Boston Hoedown Country Dance** Potluck (chicken & drinks provided). Admission: \$5. At St. John the Evangelist Church. Information: 586-6516

Every Saturday 7:30 pm **Gay Boston Magazine.** Neighborhood Network News cable TV program, Mary Kennedy, Eileen Joyce producers.

Oct 1, Oct 7, and Oct 8 at 8:00 pm **Stand-up Political Cabaret** featuring Barry Crimmins, Randy Credico and Jimmy Tingle. Admission \$10, \$8 students. At the Charlestown Working Theatre, 442 Bunker Hill Street, Charlestown. Information: 242-3534.

8:00 pm **Jackson Browne** at the Wang Center. Tickets: \$25 (available through Ticketron). Benefit for the Christic Institute.

8:00 pm **Weaving Stories & Songs** Elisa Perlmain, storyteller & Sue Kranz, folksinger. Donation: \$5-\$15 to benefit Renewal House Shelter and Hope for Women. At the 1st Congregational Church, 11 Garden St. Cambridge. Information: 566-6881

8:00 pm **Romanovsky & Phillips Concert** Tickets: \$8 in advance (at Glad Day) \$10 at the door. At the Tower Auditorium, Mass College of Art, 625 Huntington Ave, Boston. Information & tickets: 266-5443.

Oct 1 and Oct 2 at 8:00 pm **Vusisizwe Players** from Johannesburg, South Africa perform at C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University, 55 Temple St, Boston. Watermelon Studio, producers of the Women in Theatre Festival in association with Fund for a Free South Africa are sponsors. Tickets: \$12 available at Suffolk University Box Office (573-8680) and other outlets. Student, senior and group discounts available.

8:30 pm **Dance Party** Dance to Orchestra El Salvador, a 10-piece Salvadoran band, and to taped rock music with a DJ. At the Firehouse Multicultural Arts Center, 659 Centre St. Jamaica Plain. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Information: CASA at 492-8699

Sun 2 11:00 am **The Present Situation in South Africa:** a talk by Dr Aggrey Mbere, one of the top officials of the African National Congress and a native of South Africa and professor of history, Department of Social Sciences, Roxbury Community College. Dr Mbere has written numerous articles on apartheid in the *Journal of African Historical Studies*. Music by Sharmane Simard. Free. At the Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St, Boston. Tel # 266-6710.

3:00-5:00 pm **Sarah Holmes**, editor of *Testimonies*, a collection of gay and lesbian coming-out stories will read at New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Free. Refreshments. Tel# 876-5310.

5:30 pm **Cambridge Lesbian Potluck** Meet your neighbors! New group for Cambridge & surrounding areas. Information: Wendy at 547-2251.

6:30 pm-9:30 pm **Boston Mobilization for Survival's 1988 Awards Dinner** at the Dante Alighieri Center, 41 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Keynote speaker: Rosario Salerno, councilor-at-large, Boston City Council. Presentation of the third annual peace leadership award to Mackie McLeod. Tickets: \$25 regular, \$15 low-income. Information: 354-0008

7:00 pm-8:30 pm **In Memory of Rosie Jimenez-Our Struggle Continues.** Women throughout Boston will come together to remember the life of Rosie Jimenez, the first woman to die from a back alley abortion after the institution of the Hyde Amendment which cut off federal medicaid coverage of abortion. Rosie

OCTOBER

"The determination, the thirst for freedom in little children's hearts was such that they were prepared to face machine guns with stones. That is what happens when you want to break those chains of oppression. Nothing else seems to matter."

**-Winnie Mandela,
on the Soweto uprising, 1976.**

(from Part of My Soul Went with Him)

Every Wednesday 7:30 pm **Mass Act Out** meets at MIT, Building 66, Room 126. Information: 661-7737

Thurs 6 **Reunion Dinner** for returnees from Nicaragua and others interested in going to Nicaragua. Part of National Eyewitness Week, Oct 2-9. Call CASA at 492-8699 for time and place.

3:00 pm **Clara Lopez Obergon, President of the City Council in Bogota, Columbia** will speak in Room E38-615 at MIT on **Women, Human Rights and the State of Columbia.** Co-sponsors: the MIT Dept. of Political Science, the Center for International Studies at MIT, and the MIT Women's Studies Program. Information: 253-8844

5:00-8:00 pm **Opening reception** for the exhibition of Argentinian printmaker, Liliana Porter's work at *The Space*, 788 Columbus Avenue, Boston. The exhibit runs from Oct 1 to Oct 30. Information: 445-9016

6:30 pm **Latin America in North America.** Part of Latin America Awakened series. Performance: "Border Brujo" by the Mexican performance artist and writer Guillermo Gomez-Peña, Luis Jimenez (Chicano sculptor), Frank Espada (Puerto Rican photographer) and Gregorio Rivera (Chicano computer artist). At Mass College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave. Boston. Information: 232-1555x484

7:00 pm **Boston Gay/Lesbian Pride Committee** meets in Room 801 of Boston City Hall. Information: Matthew Hayes at 232-1716

7:30 pm **Phil Ochs Song Night** at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School Auditorium. A benefit for the People's Music Network Scholarship Fund and the Nameless Coffeehouse of Cambridge will feature New England folk artists performing the songs of the late Phil Ochs. Confirmed Performers: Laura Burns & Roger Rosen, Bob Franke, Pat Humphries, Patty Huntington, Katzberg and Snyder, Charlie King and Martha Leader, Magpie, Cindy Mangsen, Dennis Pearne and Marianne Kreitlow, Deborah Silverstein, and Marcia Taylor. Hosted by Sonny Ochs. Tickets: \$9 in advance, \$10 at door, \$5 low income. Information: Marty Blatt at 492-6259

Oct 6 and every Thursday in October. 7:30 pm **Party of a New Type:** introduction to the Communist Party, USA, its origin, development, goals, functioning. This attempts to answer all the questions you always wanted to ask. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass. Ave, Cambridge, Tel# 868-5620.

8:30 pm-10:00 pm **Discussion Group for non-offending male sexual abuse victims.** At the Conference Room at the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, 859 Mass. Ave, Cambridge. Free. Sponsored by New Directions for Men, 498-9881.

Fri 7 7:30 pm **Balance of Forces Shift:** forum on the Mexican Elections. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Tel# 868-5620.

8:00 pm **The Michael Camilo Trio**, grammy award winning innovator in Latin jazz piano, will perform at the Jorge Hernandez cultural center at Villa Victoria, 88 W. Newton St., Boston. Tickets \$6 in advance, \$9 at the door. Part of the



Winnie Mandela

9:30pm-11:30pm **Reception for Dr. Ruben Zamora** at the Episcopal Divinity School, Brattle St, Cambridge. Donation: \$25. Co-sponsored by Boston DSA, New England-El Salvador Art Exchange. Information: DSA at 426-9026

Sat 15 & Sun 16 **First Annual Homecoming for Gay and Bisexual** UMASS Alumni/ae. At the UMASS Amherst campus. Workshops start at 10:00 am at the Campus Center and include such topics as anti-lesbian/gay violence on campus and coming out to parents.

10:00 am-5:00 pm **CASA Yard Sale** At Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Information: 492-8699

8:00 pm **Banding Together.** The lesbian and gay bands of America in concert. Over 100 musicians from across the nation will perform at Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory (corner of Huntington ave & Gainsborough St), Boston. Special guests: the Boston Gay Men's Chorus and the Rhode Island Feminist Chorus. Admission: \$12 & \$18.

8:00 pm **Dance with the Girillas and DJ Pablo Lozano** at a rent party for the Association of Salvadoran Artists and Cultural Workers (ASTAC). Admission: \$6. At the Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave, Harvard Square, Cambridge. Information: 492-2778

Sun 16 11:00 am **Desegregating Boston's Housing:** Community Acknowledgement, Action, Healing Unity, a talk by Attorney Barbara R. Arnwine, executive director of the Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, which is co-counsel with plaintiffs Tanya Bowman, Annie Hailey and the NAACP in a lawsuit alleging racial discrimination by the Boston Housing Authority. The lawsuit charges that the city's current public housing desegregation plan goes back only to 1983 and does not remedy the discrimination against untold numbers of black applicants dissuaded from applying for housing in white neighborhoods since 1978. Music by James Badger. At the Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. Tel# 266-6710.

3:00-5:00 pm **Louise Rafkin**, author of the extremely popular book, *Different Daughters* is coming to Boston to celebrate her new anthology: *Unholy Alliance: New Women's Fiction*. Louise will be joined by contributors Patricia Roth Schwartz (local author) and Barbara Selfridge. Free. Refreshments. At New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Tel# 876-5310.

4:00-7:00 pm **Jamaica Plain Lesbian & Gay Neighbors** monthly potluck Meet at the 1st Church (Unitarian) hall, Center & Eliot Sts with a dish to share & a non-alcoholic beverage. Newcomers welcome. Information: Kenn 524-8337 or Margaret 524-8070.

8:00 pm **Paul Winter, Judy Collins, Patty Larkin, Buskin & Batteau** in Voices

Sat 22 **Guatemalan Cultural Festival** with food, crafts, speakers, marimbaband. Information: CASA at 492-8699

Oct 22 & 23 **Lecture by two representatives of Yesh Gvul** (there is a limit) from Israel. The term describes Israelis' refusals to enlist in the army. Teretz Kidron and Meir Amor will speak in the Boston area. For information concerning place and time, call AFSC at 661-6130

Gay & Lesbian Speakers Bureau Training. Registration: 10:00 am, training 10:30 am-4:30 pm. At UMASS, Park Square (corner of Arlington, Columbus & Stuart Sts.), Boston. Call 354-0133 to register.

Community Change, Inc. celebrates its 20th anniversary of anti-racism work at Roxbury Community College. Call 523-0555 or write to Community Change, 14 Beacon St #709, Boston Ma 02108 for more information.

8:00 pm **Diedre McCalla** in concert at Paine Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, a benefit for the National Organization of Women. Admission \$17 in advance, \$19 at the door, \$35 benefactors with a reception attended by the artist. Information: 782-1056 . ASL ♿

8:00 pm **Sanctuary: The Harriet Tubman Spirit** an Underground Railway production & benefit for Oxfam America. Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, Group discounts available for 10 or more people. Senior & student discounts. At the Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Rd, Dorchester. For information & tickets, call Florenda at 482-1211

8:00 pm **The Mario Bauzà Big Band**, grammy award-winning pioneer of Afro-Cuban music, will perform at the Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center at Villa Victoria, 88 W. Newton St., Boston. Tickets: \$6 in advance, \$9 at the Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center at Villa Victoria, 88 W. Newton St., Boston. Tickets: \$6 in advance, \$9 at the door. Part of the *Latin America Awakened* series. Information: 247-3576

Sun 23 10:45am **Boston Bisexual Women's and Men's Network Monthly Dim Sum Brunch.** Information: 247-6683.

11:00 am **Fr. Bill Davis of the Christic Institute** co-founder and chief investigator will speak. Free. At the Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St, Boston. Tel# 266-6710.

3:00 pm **The Intifada and its Implications for Struggle in the U.S.:** a panel on the Middle East. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Tel# 868-5620.

3:00-5:00 pm **Local Author Kathi Maio** has delighted audiences for years with her witty and insightful film reviews. Now she has compiled her best into a collection. Join her in celebrating the publication of *Feminist in the Dark: Reviewing the Movies*. Free. Refreshments. At the New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St, Cambridge. Tel# 876-5310

Mon 24 7:00 pm **Economic Equity Task Force** meeting at NOW office, 971 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. All women welcome. Information: 728-1056.

7:30 pm **Boston Bisexual Women's Network Monthly Volunteer Night** meet new people, talk, do BBWN projects. All women welcome. Call 247-6683 for more information and directions.

Tues 25 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm **Public Forum on Grenada.** Speakers include Dessima Williams, ambassador from Grenada to the OAS before the invasion representing the Grenada Foundation. Sponsors: City Life, RCC Caribbean Club, the Grenada Foundation. In the cafeteria, student center second floor, Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave, Roxbury Crossing. Information: 541-5314.

6:30 pm **Lesbian & Gay Neighbors of Jamaica Plain** dinner at Doyle's Cafe, Washington St, Jamaica Plain. Look for us in the rear of the center room. Info: Michael 327-5669

Thurs 27 6:30 pm **The Enigma of Chile: El Enigma de Chile** a symposium with Cecilia Vicuña, Chilean poet and visual artist, Eugenio Pittborn, Chilean visual artist, Marjorie Agosin, Chilean pet and critic. Part of *The Latin America Awakened Series*. At Mass College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave. Boston. Information: 232-1555x484

7:00 pm **Discussion of Source** by Alice Walker led by Debra McDowell, literary critic and Professor from University of Virginia. At Room 66-110, MIT. Co-sponsors: literature faculty, Austin Kelly Fund, Program in Women's Studies at MIT. Information: 253-8844

7:30 pm **Drugs and Guns: Iran/Contra and the secret team or Where was George?**, a forum sponsored by the Somerville Central American Peace Project, at the Powderhouse Community School, Somerville (1060 Broadway). The fo-

erous articles on apartheid in the *Journal of African Historical Studies*. Music by Sharmane Simard. Free. At the Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St, Boston. Tel # 266-6710.

3:00-5:00 pm **Sarah Holmes**, editor of *Testimonies*, a collection of gay and lesbian coming-out stories will read at New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Free. Refreshments. Tel# 876-5310.

5:30 pm **Cambridge Lesbian Potluck** Meet your neighbors! New group for Cambridge & surrounding areas. Information: Wendy at 547-2251.

6:30 pm-9:30 pm **Boston Mobilization for Survival's 1988 Awards Dinner** at the Dante Alighieri Center, 41 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Keynote speaker: Rosario Salerno, councilor-at-large, Boston City Council. Presentation of the third annual peace leadership award to Mackie McLeod. Tickets: \$25 regular, \$15 low-income. Information: 354-0008

7:00 pm-8:30 pm **In Memory of Rosie Jimenez-Our Struggle Continues**. Women throughout Boston will come together to remember the life of Rosie Jimenez, the first woman to die from a back alley abortion after the institution of the Hyde Amendment which cut off federal medicaid coverage of abortion. Rosie Jimenez, a mother attending college on welfare could not afford an expensive abortion in a hospital or clinic. She had a cheaper back alley abortion and died from medical complications on October 3, 1977. At Room 300, Student Center, Roxbury Community College, 1234, Columbus Ave. Roxbury. Donation \$5. Information: Susan Worgahtik at 522-8728 or 282-5034. ASL ♀

7:30 pm **Lesbian Academic Group** Academics and artists present, perform and discuss works-in-progress. Information: 924-7954

Every Sunday at 7:30 pm **Ongoing Healing Group for People with AIDS**, those affected by AIDS and other life-threatening diseases & all those wishing to be of support. At Metro Healing, Metropolitan Health Club Aerobics Room, 209 Columbus Ave, Boston. Donations Accepted. Information: Brian (267-1154) or Joseph (357-6926)

11:30 pm **Martin Anderson** will talk about the **Living with AIDS Theater Project** on WROR, 98.5 FM (Host: Peter Stickle)

Mon 3 7:00-9:00 pm **Clinic on Tax Resistance** sponsored by New England War Tax Resistance. At the Community Church, 565 Boylston St. Boston. Information 731-6139

7:00 pm **Tax resistance clinic** at Community Church, 565 Boylston St, Boston. Sponsored by the New England War Tax Resisters. Information: 731-6139

7:00 pm **NOW Quarterly Business Meeting** all women welcome. At the NOW office, 971 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. Information: 728-1056

7:30-9:30 pm **The Social Tancer: Collective Self-Deception** a talk by Daniel Goleman at the Macht Auditorium, Cambridge Hospital 1493 Cambridge St, Cambridge. Free. Information: 497-1553

7:30 pm **Introductory meeting of the Boston Bisexual Women's Network**. Come learn about activities, support groups, etc. Free. At the Women's Center, 46 pleasant St, Cambridge. All women welcome. Information: 247-6683 ♀

Oct 3 and every Monday in October at 7:30 pm **Basics of Marxism** using the experiences of our lives today, we will discuss how people in struggle to change society use revolutionary thought. Marxist theories of human history and capitalist exploitation will be introduced, covering the development of imperialism, with its tendency towards war, and trends in the anti-imperialist and revolutionary movements. Living socialism is described and a strategy for achieving a socialist USA is outlined including the role of the CPUSA. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Information: 868-5620

8:00 pm **The Politics of Disability: Views on a Growing Electorate**: a panel discussion with Alan Reich, president, National Organization on Disability, Jerry Covell, student Gallavdet University, Harlan Hahn, Professor of Political Science, USC, Ginny Thornburgh, coordinator, programs of persons with disabilities, Harvard University (moderator). Arco forum of public affairs. Free. At the John F. Kennedy School of Government, 79 John F. Kennedy St., Cambridge. Information: 495-1370.

Wed 5 7:00 pm **Open House at the Office of NOW**, 971 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. All women welcome. Information: 728-1056

Every Wednesday in October at 7:30 pm **Progress and Perestroika: Socialism in Crisis?** A course in the political economy of socialism. The current changes in the Soviet Union will be the focus for identifying success and failures in the past. The course will also look forward. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Information: 868-5620

Every Wednesday & Saturday **Boston Area Women's Self-Defense Collective** is offering ongoing classes in self defense to women of all ages and abilities. Learn simple & effective techniques for home & street safety. Information: 574-9433

Oct 6 and every Thursday in October. 7:30 pm **Party of a New Type**: introduction to the Communist Party, USA, its origin, development, goals, functioning. This attempts to answer all the questions you always wanted to ask. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass. Ave, Cambridge, Tel# 868-5620.

8:30 pm-10:00 pm **Discussion Group for non-offending male sexual abuse victims**. At the Conference Room at the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, 859 Mass. Ave, Cambridge. Free. Sponsored by New Directions for Men, 498-9881.

Fri 7 7:30 pm **Balance of Forces Shift**: forum on the Mexican Elections. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Tel# 868-5620.

8:00 pm **The Michael Camilo Trio**, grammy award winning innovator in Latin jazz piano, will perform at the Jorge Hernandez cultural center at Villa Victoria, 85 West Newton St., Boston. Tickets \$6 in advance, \$9 at the door. Part of the *Latin America Awakened* series. Information: 247-3576

8:00 pm-11:00 pm **Catie Curtis plays folk & women's music** at the Arlington St. Church Coffeehouse, corner of Arlington and Boylston Sts, Boston. Donation: \$3.50. Info: Lori Kenschaft, 547-5209

Sun 9 11:00 am **Labels Kill**: speech by Dr. William E. Alberts, minister of the Community Church of Boston since 1978, author of many articles on religion's role in political, legal and economic issues and of the booklets, *The Minister Who Could Not Be Prayed Away* (1987). *What's Black and White and Racist All Over?* (1984 and now a chapter in *From Access To Power*). Music by Carolyn McDade. Free. At the Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St, Boston, Tel# 266-6710.

3:00 pm **A Year in Zimbabwe**: a forum with professors Ernest Brown and Susan Revotskie teaching and learning social development in the new Africa. Videotape of cultural work in the field. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass. Ave, Cambridge, Tel# 868-5620.

Tues 11 7:00 pm & 10:00 pm **Bisexual Visibility Actions** for National Coming Out Day. Meet at Coolidge Corner Clock Tower at 7:00 pm, corner of Harvard & Beacon St, Brookline. Wear Bisexual Pride T-shirt if you have one. We will walk to a restaurant for dinner, then at 10 pm proceed to the 1270 club, 1270 Boylston St. for fun & dancing. Information: BIS-MOVE

7:00 pm **Reproductive Task Force Meeting** at NOW office, 971 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. All women welcome. Information: 728-1056.

Wed 12 7:30 pm **HIV antibody positive support group** At the Metropolitan Community Church office, 720 Mass. Ave, Cambridge. Information: 523-7664

Thurs 13 6:30 pm **Personal Metaphors: Metafores Personales** symposium with David Lamelas, Argentinian filmmaker, Liliana Porter, Argentinian Printmaker, Rosario Morales, Puerto Rican writer. Part of the *Latin America Awakened* series. At Mass College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston. Information: 232-1555x484

7:30 pm **Nicaragua: The Contras, the Peace Process and US Aid**, a forum sponsored by the Somerville Central American Peace Project. Free. At the powderhouse community school in Somerville (1060 Broadway, near Davis Square). The forum will include reports from Somerville residents recently returned from Nicaragua, including Ann Philbin, just back from a year at the NICA school in Esteli, and Maria Judge, a participant in Witness for Peace. Information: 623-0887.

Fri 14 7:00-9:00 pm **Dr. Ruben Zamora** vice president, Revolutionary Front (FDR) of El Salvador at the B.U. Law Auditorium, 765 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. Sponsored by Democratic Socialists of America and CASA. Information: CASA at 492-8699 or DSA at 426-9026

7:30 pm **Nicaragua: a New Stage in the Revolutionary Struggle** a forum with Jim Badger. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Tel# 868-5620

Oct 14 & 15, 8:00 pm **Liz Lerman/Exchange & Dancers of the Third Age** Boston Premiere. Tickets: \$12, \$10.50 Dance Umbrella members. At the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St, Cambridge. Information: 492-7578

plaintiffs Ianya Bowman, Annie Hailey and the NAACP in a lawsuit alleging racial discrimination by the Boston Housing Authority. The lawsuit charges that the city's current public housing desegregation plan goes back only to 1983 and does not remedy the discrimination against untold numbers of black applicants dissuaded from applying for housing in white neighborhoods since 1978. Music by James Badger. At the Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. Tel# 266-6710.

3:00-5:00 pm **Louise Rafkin**, author of the extremely popular book, *Different Daughters* is coming to Boston to celebrate her new anthology: *Unholy Alliance: New Women's Fiction*. Louise will be joined by contributors Patricia Roth Schwartz (local author) and Barbara Selfridge. Free. Refreshments. At New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Tel# 876-5310.

4:00-7:00 pm **Jamaica Plain Lesbian & Gay Neighbors** monthly potluck Meet at the 1st Church (Unitarian) hall, Center & Eliot Sts with a dish to share & a non-alcoholic beverage. Newcomers welcome. Information: Kenn 524-8337 or Margaret 524-8070.

8:00 pm **Paul Winter, Judy Collins, Patty Larkin, Buskin & Batteau in Voices** a musical celebration of the wild world and the songs of the great musicians of the sea. To benefit the Long Term Research Institute, dedicated to the preservation of whales and long-lived endangered species. Tickets: \$25, \$22.50, \$18.50. At Symphony Hall, Boston.

Mon 17 **Nonviolent Blockade of the Pentagon** cosponsored by the Pledge and Winning Democracy. The action will protest US aid for "death squad democracy" and the eight-year war, and call for an end to intervention throughout Central America. For bus tickets, affinity groups, legal support work, and ways to help, call the Pledge at 497-9311. Buses will leave Sunday and return Monday night.

Tues 18 4:30 pm **Women and Islamic Fundamentalism in the Arab World**. Fatima Mernissi, a Moroccan feminist, author of *Beyond the Veil*. Audio-visual presentation. Co-sponsors: Program in Women's Studies, Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar, and The Center for International Studies at MIT. In Room E51-329 at MIT. Information: 257-8844

Wed 19 7:00 pm **Lesbian Rights Task Force** meeting at the NOW office, 971 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. All women welcome. Information: 728-1056.

Thurs 20 11:30 am & 6:00 pm **The Future Coming Toward Us**, a film about the New Jewel Movement in Grenada before the invasion plus videos on the invasion itself. Other film showings planned at Mass College of Art and in Roxbury and Cambridge. In room 3-121, Academic Building Auditorium, Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave, Roxbury Crossing. Call 541-5314 for information or to schedule films.

6:00 pm **Roots of the Rainbow** a celebration of Mel King's 60th birthday. Party, food, music, dancing at the Student Center at Roxbury Community College (1234 Columbus Ave. Roxbury Crossing). This event is also a fundraiser to get rid of the campaign debt (Donation: \$25). An exhibit of photographs, newspaper clippings, written vignettes, "remember whens", drawings, poems, campaign buttons, will be on display depicting all the doings and periods of Mel's life. Material for the exhibit will be collected in Marie Kennedy's office at the College of Public and Community Service, UMASS/Boston, Room 801, corner of Arlington & Stuart Sts, in Park Square. Family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, students, political comrades, etc. are asked to participate and bring anything that could be photographed for slides or tacked up for display. For more information, call Pamela King at 267-7177 or leave a message for her at 267-3759

6:30 pm **Signs of Everyday Life: Signos del la Vida Cotidiana** symposium with Cristina Pachero, Mexican journalist, Carlos Capelan, Uruguayan visual artist; Francisco Méndez-Díaz, Cuban painter and printmaker. Part of *Latin America Awakened* series. At Mass College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston. Information: 232-1555x484

Fri 21 9:00 am-5:00 pm **Beating the Budget Crunch!** a conference for "non-experts on taxes and what they buy, sponsored by Tax Equity Alliance for Massachusetts. Special guest, Bob Kuttner, Boston Globe columnist and author of *Revolt of the Haves: Tax Rebellions and Hard Times*. At 1 Ashburton Place, 21st floor, Boston. Information: 426-1228.

7:30 pm **Haiti: The Battle For Democracy Goes On**: forum with Jean Geneus. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge, Tel# 868-5620.

Washington St, Jamaica Plain. Look for us in the rear of the center room. Info: Michael 327-5669

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7:30 pm - 9:30 pm **Consciousness: Evolution and Human Survival**, a lecture by Stanislav Grof, MD, on using transpersonal psychology to effect social and global change. At Macht Auditorium, Cambridge Hospital, 1493 Cambridge St., Cambridge. Admission: \$15 if pre-registered by Oct 20, \$20 at the door, \$8 students.

Fri 28 7:30 pm **Forum on Cuba: Socialism Gains Ground** with members of the Venceremos Brigade. Donation: \$3. At the Center for Marxist Education, 550 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Tel# 868-5620.

8:00 pm **From the New Left to the Autonomes: 20 years of Political Evolution in Europe**, a talk by George Katsiaficas, author of "The Imagination of the New Left". Part of the Black Rose Lecture Series. Free. At MIT Room 9-150, 105 Mass Ave, Cambridge. Information: 524-0781. ♀

Oct 28 & 29, 8:00 pm **Victoria Marks**, World Premiere. Tickets \$12, \$10.50 Dance Umbrella members. At the Strand Theater, 543 Columbia Rd, Dorchester. Information: Dance Umbrella at 492-7578

Sun 30 7th **Annual Walk for Peace** 10 kilometer fundraising walk starting at Boston Common. Walk starts at 1:00 pm, registration and music at 11:30 am. Information: Peace Action at 868-5259

3:00 pm-5:00 pm **Reading by Sonia Sanchez**: one of the country's foremost black women poets. She has delighted audiences nationally with her dynamic readings and Boston is very lucky to have her with us this fall. Sonia will read from several of her poetry collections. Her most recent book is *Under a Sopranosky*. Refreshments served. Free. At New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St, Cambridge. Tel# 876-5310

6:00 pm-10:00 pm **T-Dance of the Living Dead**. Come as your favorite dead rock star's evil twin in drag. Admission: \$2 (\$1 before 7:00). At the 1270 Club, 1270 Boylston St., Boston. Disc parties feature non-sexist, radical and alternative rock and roll, by more than a few women performers and musicians, played by DJ Mileki. Sponsored by Rock Against Sexism.

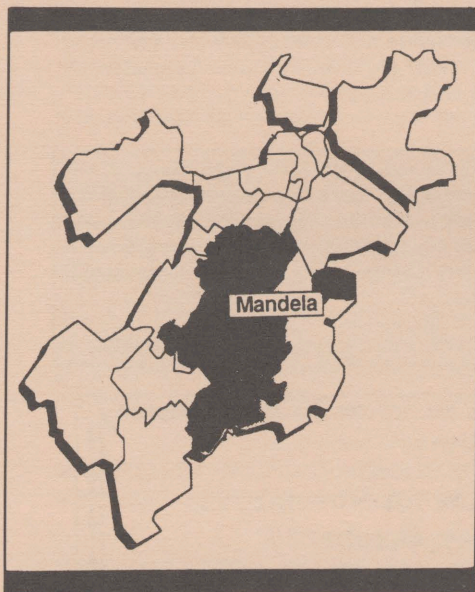
Nov 3-12 6th **Annual North America-Nicaragua Colloquium on Health** Lectures, seminars, clinical workshops, tours of urban and rural health care facilities. Meetings and discussions with health care providers in Nicaragua. Contact Boston Committee for Health Rights in Central America (489-3386) as soon as possible if interested in attending. In Managua, Nicaragua

Listings Deadline for November is
Wednesday, October 19
Send to: What's Left in Boston
92 Green Street,
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
Or telephone: 522-9671

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(This sub is optional. Organizations may buy regular subs, or even low-income subs. But an Organization Sub would be a nice gesture of support for us and you will also receive the extra copies of the calendar. We hope of course that you will list all your events in the calendar.)

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